

OCT 28 2010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of)	Group Art Unit 3775
)	
Jean-François BIEGUN and)	Nicholas W. Woodall, Examiner
Pascal MARCEAUX)	
)	CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
)	
Serial No.: 10/534,567)	I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
)	facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and
)	Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300
Filed: May 12, 2005)	on this 28th day of October, 2010
)	
For: ACCESSORIES FOR)	Patricia Oakes, Secretary to Edward G. Grelve
REMOVING BONE MATERIAL)	
AND METHOD FOR MAKING)	
SAME)	

SUBMISSION OF AFFIDAVIT AFTER APPEAL UNDER 37 CFR 41.33

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An affidavit is submitted herewith after a notice of appeal was filed.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS

A Notice of Appeal was filed in this case on September 8, 2010. The Appeal Brief has not yet been filed. A Second Declaration of inventor Jean Francois Biegun is submitted herewith. The record includes a First Declaration of Jean Francois Biegun that was filed on March 16, 2009.

Submission of this Declaration is appropriate under 37 CFR

41.33(d)(1), which reads as follows:

An affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing an appeal pursuant to § 41.31(a)(1) through (a)(3) and prior to the date of filing a brief pursuant to § 41.37 may be admitted if the examiner determines that the affidavit or other evidence overcomes all rejections under appeal and that a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented has been made.

The Second Declaration overcomes all rejections under appeal. The Examiner has relied upon the Geisser reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,454,815) for the alleged properties of the device disclosed therein. Inventor Biegun's Second Declaration contradicts the Office's interpretation of Geisser's teachings. Particularly, Mr. Biegun declares "I further hereby declare that prior art his rasp such as described in US 5454815 cannot rasp bone having a Shore D Hardness of 85 or more, and since hip bones have a Shore D hardness comprised between 85 and 95, prior art rasp recited in US 5454815 cannot rasp hip bones." In view of this, the Geisser reference does not disclose features recited by the pending claims, and consequently, the rejections of the claims should be withdrawn.

The Second Declaration is necessary and was not earlier presented for good and sufficient reasons. The Second Declaration is necessary as it overcomes all rejections under appeal. Mr. Biegun made his First Declaration to distinguish the teachings of Geisser. The Office continued to reject the claims, however, and the Examiner remarked about the shortcomings of the First Declaration. The Second Declaration also responds to the Office's interpretation of the Geisser reference, including the interpretation taken in the Final Office Action mailed 06/09/2010.

Accordingly, the Second Declaration should be admitted and the claims should proceed to issue. If any issues remain, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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October 28, 2010

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OCT 28 2010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jean François Biegun

Serial N°.: 10/534,567

Filed: 11/14/2003

Title: Accessories for removing bone material and method for making same

Examiner: Nicholas Woodall

Attorney Docket N°.: CAC.P0046

DECLARATION OF Jean François BIEGUN

I, Jean François Biegun, hereby declares as follows:

I am the inventor in the above identified application, and I am currently the general manager of XNOV a French based company specialized in the manufacture of knee and hip prosthesis as well as of ancillaries and accessories related to such prosthesis, in particular ancillaries and accessories for removing the hip or knee bone in view of the installation of such prosthesis. I have been working in this field for almost 20 years and have been the designated inventor of many US granted patent in the field.

On March 4, 2009, I have made a previous Declaration in which I have stated that:

"I have manufactured a femoral rasp in polycarbonate (Makrolon 2858 from Bayer) and I have had the Shore D Hardness of two samples (one without pre treatment and another one with a pre treatment consisting of exposition to Beta or Gamma rays in view of sterilization) and have found the following results:

For the first sample (no Beta or Gamma rays exposition) the medium value of the Shore D Hardness was found to be 83.3.

For the second sample (pre treated with Beta or Gamma rays exposition) the medium value of the Shore D Hardness was found to be 85.3.

It should be emphasized that the value of the D shore Hardness of the cortical bone ranges between 85 and 95, depending on which part of the bone the shore is being computed and that in the case of the cortical hip or femoral bone which is being rasped in the field of hip or bone prosthesis, it is the less hard part of the bone which is usually being rasped, ie the part of the bone with a D shore Hardness around 85.

It should then be pointed out that with the Beta or Gamma rays exposition pre treatment of the polycarbonate based rasp, it is obtained a value of the hardness which is higher than the one of the bone to be rasped, while without such pretreatment, the hardness stays beyond the hardness of the bone. This explains why prior art polycarbonate based rasp such as described in US 5454815 has never been able to rasp bone, while our new pre treated rasp is indeed able to rasp bone."

In view of the Appeal proceedings with the USPTO for this patent application, I have reviewed my above previous Declaration and I hereby wish to further clarify and supplement it by stating that when I am declaring in my above previous Declaration that "prior art polycarbonate based rasp such as described in US 5454815 has never been able to rasp bone", the term "bone" has to be understood as meaning "hip or knee bone" and not any bone. I believe such interpretation of the term bone is unambiguously derivable from my above previous Declaration taken as a whole and I hereby declare that such interpretation corresponds exactly to what I was intending to declare when I made my previous Declaration.

I further hereby declare that prior art hip rasp such as described in US 5454815 cannot rasp bone having a Shore D Hardness of 85 or more, and since hip bones have a Shore D hardness comprised between 85 and 95, prior art rasp recited in US 5454815 cannot rasp hip bones.

I also declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made herein on information are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Made in Belfort on October 2010

Jean François Biegun